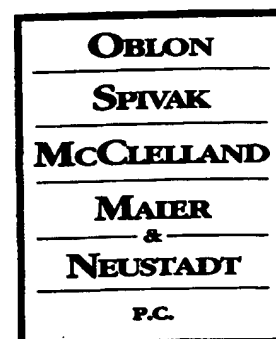


June 30, 2004



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Box 16
Washington, DC 20231

ATTORNEYS AT LAW
KATHLEEN A. MORSBERGER
CONTROLLER
(703) 412-6494
KMORSBERGER@OBLON.COM

Attn: Frank Lebron
Refund Department

Re: Deposit Account #150030

Dear Mr. Lebron:

Enclosed is a copy of a portion of our deposit account statement of May, 2004. Please review the highlighted charge on **Serial Number 10/023,702 in the amount of \$180.00 on fee code #1806.**

An Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) and amendment was filed on April 23, 2004. As stated in the highlighted "Remarks" section of the amendment, the IDS had previously been filed on December 1, 2003. A corrected list of references was being filed on April 23, 2004. **Therefore, no fee was required to file the IDS.** The fee charged to our deposit account was in error and should be refunded.

Please investigate this charge and **kindly refund \$180.00 to Deposit Account #150030.** **Copies of the appropriate paperwork are attached.** If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact me. My phone number is 703-412-6296. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debra J. Noel".

Debra J. Noel
Accounting Department

Enclosures

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



United States Patent and Trademark Office

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



Deposit Account Statement

Requested Statement Month:

Deposit Account Number:

Name:

Attention:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

NORMAN F. OBLON

 1940 DUKE STREET
ALEXANDRIA
VA
22314

DATE	SEQ	POSTING REF TXT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NBR	FEE CODE	AMT	BAL
05/03	5	E-REPLENISHMENT		9203	-\$100.00	\$30,947.71
05/03	5	10484715	247852US	1613	\$820.00	\$30,127.71
05/03	6	E-REPLENISHMENT		9203	-\$100.00	\$30,227.71
05/03	8	E-REPLENISHMENT		9203	-\$100.00	\$30,327.71
05/03	200	6727394	229442US0XPCT	8013	\$25.00	\$30,302.71
05/03	201	6559200	223825US0GET	8013	\$25.00	\$30,277.71
05/04	5	10480634	246974US0XPCT	1615	\$36.00	\$30,241.71
05/04	6	10480634	246974US0XPCT	1614	\$86.00	\$30,155.71
05/04	7	10480634	246974US0XPCT	1616	\$290.00	\$29,865.71
05/04	35	10359608	216629TW/FF	8007	\$20.00	\$29,845.71
05/04	124	10360864	232602US2/GET	8007	\$20.00	\$29,825.71
05/04	267	10733282	246399US6	8007	\$20.00	\$29,805.71
05/05	1	10279843	229754US	1806	\$180.00	\$29,625.71
05/05	1	09926400	215335US0XPC	1201	\$86.00	\$29,539.71
05/05	1	10101756	221069US0	1806	\$180.00	\$29,359.71
05/05	2	10135548	222705US2	1806	\$180.00	\$29,179.71
05/05	2	10660475	242800US0X	1806	\$180.00	\$28,999.71
05/05	305	09628728	194784US-28	1504	\$300.00	\$28,699.71
05/06	33	10773344	248475	9204	-\$344.00	\$28,043.71
05/06	177	09119475	6097-00075-203601	1201	\$344.00	\$28,699.71
05/07	1	10467179	241357US3PCT	1617	\$130.00	\$28,569.71
05/07	6	PCT/US04/03367	248249WO	1703	\$627.00	\$27,942.71
05/07	8	09774566	192162US77	1811	\$100.00	\$27,842.71
05/07	417	10476029	244589US0X PCT	1616	\$290.00	\$27,552.71
05/07	422	10475756	244339US0XPCT	1616	\$290.00	\$27,262.71
05/10	3	10482405	247407US2PCT	1614	\$86.00	\$27,176.71
05/10	79	10494323	252569US0PCT	1616	\$6.00	\$27,170.71
05/10	272	60478303	237807US90PROVJEM	8007	\$20.00	\$27,150.71

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

OSMM&N File No. 217720US3

Dept.: E/M

By: GJM/PH/me

In the matter of the Application of: Masaharu NISHIMURA, et al.

For: OUTER CASING COVERING GAS TURBINE COMBUSTOR

Due Date: April 23, 2004

The following has been received in the U.S. Patent Office on the date stamped hereon:

- Dep. Acct. Order Form
- Cover Letter
- Amendment After Final
- PTO-1449

\\ATTY\PH21s\217720\FR 042304.DOC



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

217720US3

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

MASAHARU NISHIMURA, ET AL. : EXAMINER: KIM, T.

SERIAL NO: 10/023,702 :

FILED: DECEMBER 21, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3746

FOR: OUTER CASING COVERING GAS :
TURBINE COMBUSTOR

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated January 23, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 5 of this paper.

10/23/04

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in view of the above amendments and in light of the following remarks and discussion, is respectfully requested.

Applicants respectfully request entry of this response, as the response places the application in clear condition for allowance, or alternatively places the claims in better form for appeal. Specifically, Applicants have amended independent claims to overcome rejections.

Upon entry of this response, Claims 1-14 are pending; independent Claims 1 and 12 having been amended by way of the present response. Applicants respectfully assert that support for the changes to the claims is self-evident from the originally filed disclosure, including the original claims, and that therefore no new matter has been added.

In the outstanding Office Action, the Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) filed on December 1, 2003, was indicated as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2); Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,351,947 to Keller et al. (Keller); Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,530,221 to Sattinger et al. (Sattinger); Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keller in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,411,616 to Neumann; Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sattinger in view of Neumann; and Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 2,930,195 to Blackman, Jr., et al. (Blackman) in view of Neumann.

Initially, Applicants express thanks for the Examiner's indication that independent Claims 3 and 5 are allowed.

In the Office Action

1, 2003, was indicated as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2). In response

Application No. 10/023,702
Reply to Office Action of January 23, 2004

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner

230836) of the included

document number (11-0625)

References Cited by Applicant: Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner

acknowledge consideration of the previously filed English language abstract by initialing and executing the enclosed List, and return a copy of the List with the next U.S. Patent Office communication.

In the Office Action, Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Keller. Claims 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Sattinger. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Keller in view of Neumann. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sattinger in view of Neumann. Claims 1, 2, 4, and 12-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Blackman in view of Neumann. Applicants respectfully assert that the rejections of the claims have been overcome by the above amendments for the following reasons.

The present invention is directed to gas turbine combustors. Independent Claim 1 recites a casing configured to surround a combustor and to be disposed apart from the combustor to define an intake chamber between the combustor and the casing. A sheet-like vibration damper having at least one thin plate, which resonates with a vibration of air in the intake chamber to absorb energy of the air vibration, is attached to an inner wall of the casing by an attaching member with a vacant space therebetween. Independent Claim 12 recites a casing surrounding an intake chamber, the casing configured to surround a combustor and to be disposed apart from the combustor and the casing. A damper is connected to an inner wall of the casing and is configured to resonate with a vibration of air in the intake chamber, the

Docket No. 217720US3

APR 23 2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Masaharu NISHIMURA, et al.

SERIAL NO: 10/023,702

GAU: 3746

FILED: December 21, 2001

EXAMINER: KJM, T.

FOR: OUTER CASING COVERING GAS TURBINE COMBUSTOR

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RECEIVED

SIR:

APR 27 2004

Applicant(s) wish to disclose the following information.

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

REFERENCES

- ☒ The applicant(s) wish to make of record the reference listed on the attached form PTO-1449. A copy of the listed reference was filed with an Information Disclosure Statement on December 1, 2003, along with an English language translation of the abstract.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

RELATED CASES

- ☐ Attached is a list of applicant's pending application(s) or issued patent(s) which may be related to the present application. A copy of the patent(s), together with a copy of the claims and drawings of the pending application(s) is attached along with PTO 1449.
- ☐ A check or credit card payment form is attached in the amount required under 37 CFR §1.17(p).

CERTIFICATION

- ☐ Each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.
- ☐ No item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or, to the knowledge of the undersigned, having made reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

- ☒ Please charge any additional fees for the papers being filed herewith and for which no check or credit card payment is enclosed herewith, or credit any overpayment to deposit account number 15-0030. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier

Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel. (703) 413-3000

Fax. (703) 413-2220

(OSMMN 05/03)

I:\ATTY\PM215\217720\uds 042304.DOC

Philip J. Hoffmann

Registration No. 46,340

Adjustment date: 08/04/2004 EEKUBAY1
05/19/2004 DPOLLARD 00000001 150030 10023702
01 FC:1806 180.00 CR